

**Regular Meeting
Menominee Language and Culture Code Commission
January 12, 2010 @ 3:30 pm
MLCCC LaMotte Lake Site**

1. Opening Prayer was said by Warren Wilber Sr.
2. Chairman Warren Wilber Sr. called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. Roll call was taken with a quorum present. MEMBERS PRESENT: Warren Wilber Sr., Marie Floring, Davey Jean Reiter, Margaret Snow, and Sherri LaChapelle. MEMBERS ABSENT: Lorene Pocan (unexcused), Joey Awonohopay (unexcused), and Dr. Verna Fowler (unexcused). ALSO PRESENT: Ronald Corn Jr. John Reiter, Dennis Kenote, Alan Washinawatok, Chris Anderson (Tribal News), Karen Washinawatok, Lindzey Grall (Legal Services), Colleen Waukechon (recorder), and Natasha Miller (recorder).

3. Approval of Minutes dated November 10, 2009-Regular.

Under agenda item number four, first paragraph, “there” was changed to “their”.

Under agenda item number, second paragraph, “there” was changed to “their”.

Under agenda item number seven, third sentence, “NAF” was changed to “NSF”.

Motion was made by Davey Jean Reiter to approve the minutes dated November 10, 2009 with corrections. Second was by Sherri LaChapelle. All those in favor signify by saying aye. Motion carried: 4-for, 0-opposed, 0-abstention, and 3-absent (Pocan, Awonohopay, and Fowler).

4. Informational.

There were no informational items presented.

5. Five Year Recertification- Ronald Corn Jr.

Chairman Wilber presented Ronald Corn Jr. with his five year recertification. Menominee News reporter Chris Anderson was present for pictures and comments.

Ronald Corn Jr.’s comment was, “thank-you to the elders who helped me along the way, and thanks for the students that continue to stay interested.”

Tribal News Reporter Chris Anderson informed the Commission that they will be starting a “this month in History” section. If anyone would like to submit a historical event they can do so free of charge with Tribal News.

6. Approval of One Year Provisional Certification- Fay Annamitta.

Karen Washinawatok informed the Commission that Fay Annamitta has passed her oral and written test with minimal amounts of scoring, and is ready for Legislative approval.

Motion was made by Margaret Snow to recommend to the Menominee Tribal Legislature for approval of the one year provisional certification for Fay Annamitta. Second was by Sherri LaChapelle. All those in favor signify by saying aye. Motion carried: 4-for, 0-opposed, 0-abstention, and 3-absent (Pocan, Awonohopay, and Fowler).

7. Menominee Language and Culture Commission Code Review: Discussion/Action.

The Commission started to review the code at page 8 where they left off from the last meeting.

Section 115

Section A. Pre-service Training. No changes were made.

Section B. Professional Development Training with the Menominee Language and Culture Commission.

Part 1. First Paragraph.

The first sentence in the paragraph that reads; "Bi-weekly meetings with Menominee and Culture Commission." was deleted.

The fifth sentence in the paragraph that reads; "Teachers are required to attend the entire session and bring their lexicon and English to Menominee booklet." was deleted.

In the last sentence of the paragraph "will" was changed to "may".

These changes were made to take out bi-weekly meetings from the ordinance. It states in the section that all certified teachers are required to attend meetings with fluent speakers of the Menominee language scheduled by the Menominee Language and Culture Commission. This allows language teachers to utilize other resources, such as, language tables rather than set bi-weekly meetings.

Karen stated that bi-weekly meeting are not taking place and lesson plans have not been submitted by some teachers.

Sherri LaChapelle suggested that Karen send a letter to the schools and the superintendent as a reminder that lesson plans are to be submitted to the Commission.

Discussion was held on paragraph three where it talks about the revocation of certifications. Attorney Lindzey Grall asked the Commission if they wanted the wording that states "a certification is revoked if they are absent from 3 mandatory meetings in a three month period" left in. Lindzey stated that if the language is taken out and a teacher does not attend

any meeting than there would not be any language that enforces the Commission to revoke their license. The Commission felt that due to past incidents wording in the ordinance needs to be in there that allows them to revoke a certification if a teacher is not complying.

Sherri LaChapelle suggested that the word “Menominee” be inserted in the paragraph to read “The Menominee Language and Culture Commission has the authority to revoke the certification for failure to meet the requirements of his or her personal “Menominee” development plan.” With this wording the teachers should have a personal development plan at the school and one with the Commission, that way the Commission can have their own requirements for the teacher to go by.

Karen stated that the school supersedes the Commission, because they are contractual. Having two personnel developments could become confusing for the teachers.

Concerns were raised about enforcement of the code on Menominee language teachers teaching outside the community using the Commission’s Certification. Karen noted that it would be difficult to enforce mandatory attendance at meetings for teachers not living in the community. Lindzey stated that the Commission only has authority over the license they issue. If an individual is teaching at an outside institution with a state license the Commission has no authority over them.

Davey Jean Reiter suggested having a special meeting to review the code. Karen stated they have money in the budget, but with the new building they are having unexpected expenses that they didn’t have in the past.

Section 1. Second paragraph.

The second paragraph in the third sentence, “bring a tape recorder and tapes and” was deleted from the sentence.

In the same sentence “weekly” was deleted as well.

Section 1. Third paragraph.

A sentence was added at the beginning that reads; “A copy of the teacher’s personal development plan will be kept on file with the Menominee Language and Culture Commission,”

The Commission ended review on Page 9 part 2.

8. Indian Child Welfare Workers Study: Discussion/Action.

The study was brought to the Social Services Department by Silvia Marquis-Hurst, a student at George Williams College of Aurora University in Illinois. Based on the research procedure of the Menominee Tribe, Carol Corn forwarded her to the Language and Culture Commission for approval.

Karen Washinawatok stated that she emailed Mary Husby and Carol Corn asking for their input on the study. Mary Husby emailed her comments and stated she felt that Silvia does not know her subject matter nor did she recognize that the Indian Child Welfare Act is handled at the states level and not Tribal. Her recommendation to the Commission would be to deny the request.

The Commission discussed the survey and agreed to go along with the recommendation of Mary Husby to deny the research request.

Motion was made by Margaret Snow to deny the Survey on Effectiveness of Training in the Child Welfare Act for Indian Child Welfare Workers. Second was by Davey Jean Reiter. All those in favor signify by saying aye. Motion carried: 4-for, 0-opposed, 0-abstention, and 3-absent (Pocan, Awonohopay, and Fowler).

9. Director's Report.

Due to there not being a December meeting, Karen submitted her December report along with her January report for the meeting packets.

Karen informed the Commission that she may be out on travel to Washington DC for the school board during the week of the March meeting. Therefore the Commission may have to move the March meeting date, the school board is yet to act on the issue.

10. Other Business.

Karen stated that she and Ronald Corn Jr. have signed the MOA between Language and Culture Commission and Mawaw Coseniyah. It will then be forwarded to Administration for Jeremy Weso's signature.

11. Adjournment.

Motion made by Margaret Snow to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Marie Floring. All those in favor signify by saying aye. Motion carried: 4-for, 0-opposed, 0-abstentions, and 3-absent (Pocan, Awonohopay, and Fowler).

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Natasha Miller, Transcriber/Recorder
Recording Clerk – Receptionist, Chairman's Office

Colleen Waukechon, Transcriber/Recorder
Office Assistant, Chairman's Office